

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed January 31, 2005. At the time of the Final Office Action, Claims 1-6 and 8-13 were pending in this Application. Claims 7 and 14-19 were previously cancelled due to an election/restriction. Claims 1-6 and 8-13 were rejected. Claims 1-6 and 8-13 have been amended to further define various features of Applicants' invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6 and 8-13 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0032025 filed by Gary A. Lenz et al. ("Lenz et al."). Applicants respectfully traverse and submit the cited art does not teach all of the limitations of the claimed embodiments of the invention.

The presently claimed embodiments of the invention are directed, *inter alia*, to determining a fault condition from a plurality of possible fault conditions utilizing a "weight value" based on functional relationships between inputs and outputs of components of an automation system. Lenz et al. do not disclose such a system. Lenz is merely directed to the utilization of a "similarity score" to determine whether a measurement received is within, *i.e.*, similar enough to previous measurements stored in a database. If the measurement is similar enough, *i.e.*, if the "measurement" has "an acceptable similarity" with the database information then the process proceeds. If the "similarity score is below the match tolerance level, then the process controller may determine that the measurement received is inaccurate. The process controller then computes a process action, using a virtual variable, in accordance with step 207." (Para. 0026). The presently claimed embodiment of the invention is directed to a system to identify the most likely reason for a fault condition out of a multitude of possible faults. This is done, according to an aspect of the embodiment claimed, by assigning "weight values" to fault conditions based on the functional relationships of components of the system. Consequently, the likely reason for the fault condition can be identified quickly and adjustments may be made in the process to eliminate the fault condition. Lenz does not

disclose such a system. Withdrawal of the rejection and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Change of Correspondence Address

Applicants respectfully request that all papers pertaining to the above-captioned patent application be directed to Customer No. 31625 and all telephone calls should be directed to Bruce W. Slayden II at 512.322.2606. Applicants enclose a Change of Correspondence Address for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office records.

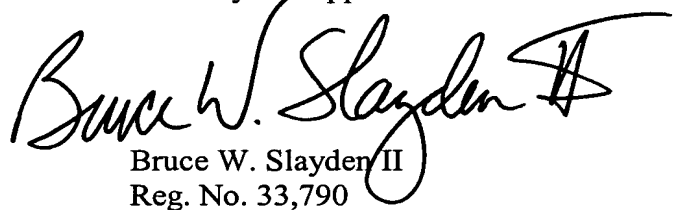
CONCLUSION

Applicants have now made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims as amended.

Applicants believe there are no fees due at this time, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.322.2606.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: March 24, 2005